



January 6th, 2020

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer
Governor
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer,

On behalf of Mudpenny, I would like to express our appreciation for the workforce development services provided by West Michigan Works! MudPenny is a local restaurant, coffee shop and catering company serving health-forward dishes, including gourmet sandwiches, salads, small plates, and a full coffee menu. We are committed to making honestly good food and drinks that inspire creativity and to provide an experience that values relationships. We are located at 570 Grandville Ave and have loved being a part of the Roosevelt Park neighborhood. Additionally, 1% of our sales (a penny for every dollar) is contributed to neighborhood organizations and efforts.

Our company has benefited greatly from the GoingProTalentFund and working with West Michigan Works! because as we expanded we needed support with finding new employees and training them. Thanks to the training funding, we were able to hire and train six individuals who have become highly valued members of our team. What we found most valuable about this grant funding and partnering with West Michigan Works! was the great opportunity to invest directly into the community of our surrounding area. We are extremely grateful to both the State of Michigan and West Michigan Works! for all their assistance this past year and look forward to working with them moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Berends", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Berends
Manager
Mudpenny
(616) 259-5353